AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure.

Please add the following new Abstract of the Disclosure:

An ink cartridge, a system, and a method of using the ink cartridge are provided. ~~Disclosed are a method for preventing shoplifting of an optional part without causing trouble to a retail store and inconvenience to a consumer and a method for enabling a storage device of the optional part to be customized as desired on the way of a distribution channel from a manufacturer to the consumer. On an~~The ink cartridge includes an ink container; and a non-volatile storage medium, which is mounted on the ink cartridge, wherein information is readable and writeable to the non-volatile storage medium contactlessly from outside a package containing the ink cartridge.~~19, a cartridge EEPROM 21 having a coil 37 contactlessly accessible to the ink cartridge 19 is mounted; and a transparent window 45 through which the coil 37 of the cartridge EEPROM 21 can be seen is provided on a package 50 of the ink cartridge 19.~~ The method of using the ink cartridge includes determining whether the ink cartridge has been purchased; and if the ink cartridge has been purchased, contactlessly writing information to the ink cartridge.~~A data writing device 67 including a memory interface 41 and a coil 43 for writing data into the cartridge EEPROM 21 is provided in each of retail stores 40a, 40b..... When the consumer purchases the ink cartridge 19, purchase data and the like are written into the cartridge EEPROM 21 through the transparent window 45 of the package 50 by electromagnetic induction between the coil 37 and the coil 43.~~ The system includes an ink cartridge comprising an ink container and a non-volatile storage medium, which is mounted on the ink cartridge, wherein

information is readable and writeable to the non-volatile storage medium contactlessly from

outside a package containing the ink cartridge; and a data writing device comprising a coil; and a

memory interface, which is coupled to the coil, wherein upon purchase of the ink cartridge, the

data writing device is used to contactlessly write information to the non-volatile storage medium

of the ink cartridge from outside the package containing the ink cartridge.~~A printer 5 reads out~~

~~data from the cartridge EEPROM 21 when the ink cartridge 19 is fitted thereto, and when no~~

~~purchase data exists, the printer is not allowed to operate for printing.~~